

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13914 221546Z
ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8576

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 13914

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: TBLO, EG
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT

REF: STATE 191835

1. IMAM IS A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL. ORGANIZATION HE LEADS IS DESCRIBED BY MINISTER OF HEALTH AS THE "EGYPTIAN ORGANIZATION FOR BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS AND VACCINES". AN ALTERNATE TITLE FOR SAME ORGANIZATION IS "EGYPTIAN ORGANIZATION FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SERUMS AND VACCINES". IMAM IS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS ORGANIZATION. HE ALSO HOLDS THE TITLE OF FIRST UNDERSECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

2. AT THE TIME OF THE 1967 BREAK IN RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND EGYPT, IMAM WAS APPOINTED CO-DIRECTOR OF NAMRU-3. HE RETAINED TITLE AND POSITION UNTIL 1975. HIS RECORD AT NAMRU WAS AT BEST A SPOTTY ONE. AT ABOUT THE TIME HE RESIGNED AS CO-DIRECTOR OF NAMRU-3 HE WAS IMPLICATED IN A SCANDAL, WITH OTHER MINISTRY OF HEALTH OFFICIALS, WAS EVENTUALLY TRIED, AND RECEIVED A SEVERE REPRIMAND. HE WAS OUT OF CIRCULATION FOR SOME TIME BUT HAS RECENTLY (PAST SIX OR EIGHT MONTHS) REGAINED HIS FORMER STATUS WITHIN THE MINISTRY.

3. IF THIS CASE WERE TO BE JUDGED SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF IMAM'S PAST CONTRIBUTION TO NAMRU-3, OR TO U.S.-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS IN GENERAL, WE WOULD PROBABLY NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 13914 221546Z

RECOMMEND ADMISSION TO A U.S. NAVAY MEDICAL FACILITY. FACT IS, HOWEVER, THAT MINISTER OF HEALTH, IN LETTER TO AMBASSADOR, HAS PERSONALLY REQUESTED MRS. IMAM'S ADMISSION TO NNMCC. EMASSY AND NAMRU-3 HAVE DEVOTED STRONG EFFORT TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A CLOSE AND LASTING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND IT IS IN USG INTEREST TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THIS RELATIONSHIP.

WE FULLY APPRECIATE FACT THAT SPACE IN MILITARY HOSPITALS IS AT A PREMIUM. IN THIS INSTANCE, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT BADRAN'S REQUEST SHOULD BE HONORED, AND MRS. IMAM ADMITTED TO NNMCM WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

4. IMAM WILL BE REMINDED THAT TREATMENT IS ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS IF AND WHEN APPROVAL IS RECEIVED.

GDS-31 DECEMBER 1983.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
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